

School Modernization Building Committee

Hello neighbors!

Believe it or not, much progress has been happening with the School Modernization Committee. As you may remember, the town approved the referendum for School Modernization contingent upon state funding with the ability for us to spend up to 1.59 million dollars in preparation of the project. Although very little of the monies have been spent, the committee has been working extremely hard this summer; in fact meeting 16 times since June to make sure we are completely prepared and ready when funding is approved.

The committee is made up of a very diverse and talented group of residents including a lawyer, construction professionals, financial managers, an educator, a building supply specialist, engineers and individuals with many years of project management experience to name a few.

Accomplishments this summer include application to the State Office of School Construction Grants for state reimbursement, application and initial approval from the US Department of Agriculture for a loan with an interest rate locked in at 2.75% (a lower rate than was quoted when the referendum passed), creation of a fair and detailed ranking system, which will be used to select our construction partners, and selection of the highly qualified Architectural Firm of Quisenberry/Arcari to put final plans together for the school.

In September, we will be using our rankings matrix to select a Construction Management firm, which will oversee the project from start to finish. We also will look to meet with educators and administrators to get additional feedback on our design. Additionally we will have a preconstruction meeting with The State of Connecticut's Office of Construction Grants to make sure we are completing all tasks necessary for a smooth process.

We hope to see our Middle School /High School students in the new facility by the 2018 school year and Elementary students in their new school by the 2019 school year, if not sooner.

Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings that take place most Monday evenings at the New Town Hall at 7:30pm. We welcome public feedback and input. Thank you for your continued support of this exciting upgrade to our town!

Mike Uργο

Chairman